

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: James C. Tiernan, et al.
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD
FOR SCALABLE
MULTIFUNCTIONAL
NETWORK
COMMUNICATION
Appl. No.: 10/578,739
Filing Date: May 10, 2006
Examiner: JAYANTI K. PATEL
Art Unit: 2616
Confirmation No.: 3387

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.56

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08A is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference

any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Any document listed on the attached PTO-1449 was cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding Singapore Patent Application. A copy of the Australian Patent Office's Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the Examiner.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present Application and that an initial copy of the Form PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with MPEP § 609.

PETITION AND FEE

It is hereby respectfully petitioned that the documents listed on the attached form PTO/SB08A be considered by the Examiner and formally made of record. A petition fee in the amount of \$180.00 in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.17(p) is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 18, 2008

By Bernard L. Kleinke

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**AUTHORIZATION TO PAY AND PETITION FOR THE
ACCEPTANCE OF ANY NECESSARY FEES**

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required either now or in the future regarding this application under 7 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to the Deposit Account No. 502635 of DUCKOR SPRADLING METZGER & WYNNE. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to the Deposit Account No. 502635 of DUCKOR SPRADLING METZGER & WYNNE. If any charges or fees must be paid in connection with the foregoing, concurrent or future communication (including, but not limited to, the payment of an extension fee or issue fees), or if any overpayment is to be refunded in connection with the above-identified application, any such charges or fees, or any such overpayment may be respectfully paid out of, or into, the Deposit Account No. 502635 of DUCKOR SPRADLING METZGER & WYNNE. If any such payment also requires a petition or extension request, please construe this authorization to pay as the necessary petition or request, which is required to accompany the payment.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

March 19, 2008

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